

AMENDED CLAIMS

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[received by the International Bureau on 13 January 2004 (13.01.04);
original claims 1 amended; remaining claims unchanged (1 page)]

1. A sharpening apparatus for a blade-like cutting implement having an elongate body and a cutting edge extending widthwise across one end of the body at a predetermined angle relative to the longitudinal axis of the body, the cutting edge being formed by an inclined face formed on one side face of the body, the apparatus including a cradle for holding a blade-like implement to be sharpened and a mounting body for mounting the cradle relative to a grinding surface, the cradle being mounted on a pair of guide rails for movement along a rectilinear path, the cradle including first and second rail followers slidably connected to a first and second of the guide rails respectively, the cradle including a seat for locating the blade-like implement at a preselected reference position on the cradle such that the cutting edge of the implement to be sharpened is located parallel to said rectilinear path, the first rail and/or the first rail follower being adjustably mounted to enable the lateral position of the rectilinear path to be adjusted when the apparatus is in use.

2. Apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein the first rail is movably mounted on the mounting body to enable the lateral position of the rectilinear path to be adjusted.

3. Apparatus according to Claim 2 wherein each end of the first rail is mounted on an eccentric rotatably supported in the mounting body, adjustment of the lateral position of the rectilinear path being achieved by rotation of said eccentrics.

4. Apparatus according to Claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein the second rail and/or second rail follower are adjustably mounted to enable the angular position of the cradle to be adjusted about the longitudinal axis of the first rail to enable the angle of the inclined face of the implement to be adjusted relative